

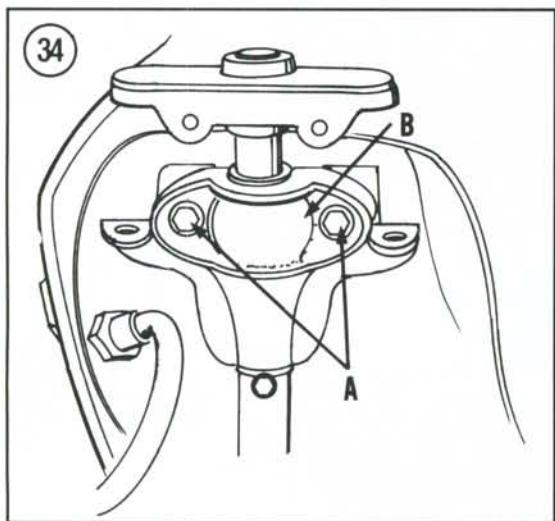
11. After all assemblies have been installed, test each one to make sure it operates correctly with no binding. Correct any problem at this time.
12. Install the handlebar cover, special screws and rubber grommets. Tighten screws securely.
13. Install the small nameplate in the handlebar cover.

STEERING SHAFT

Removal

Refer to **Figure 32** for this procedure.

1. Place the vehicle on level ground and set the parking brake. Block the rear wheels so the vehicle will not roll in either direction.
2. Remove the seat and front fender as described under *Front Fender Removal/Installation* in Chapter Thirteen. On 2-wheel drive models, also remove the inner fender panels.



3. Remove both front wheels as described in this chapter.

CAUTION

Cover the frame with a heavy cloth or plastic tarp to protect it from the accidental spilling of brake fluid. Wash any spilled brake fluid off any painted or plated surface immediately as it will destroy the finish. Use soapy water and rinse thoroughly.

CAUTION

See the CAUTION at the beginning of this chapter relating to the use of self-locking nuts.

4. Remove the lower nuts (**Figure 33**) securing the handlebar lower holders. *Discard* the nuts, they cannot be reused.
5. Move the handlebar assembly back and off the steering shaft and place it on the frame. Keep the master cylinder in an upright position to minimize loss of brake fluid and to keep air from entering the brake system. It is not necessary to remove the hydraulic brake line from the master cylinder.
6. Remove the bolts (A, **Figure 34**) and holder (B, **Figure 34**) securing the steering shaft to the frame.
- 7A. On 1988-1992 2-wheel drive models, remove the cotter pin (A, **Figure 35**) and steering shaft nut (B, **Figure 35**) at the base of the steering shaft. *Discard* the cotter pin as a new pin must be installed.
- 7B. On 4-wheel drive and 1993 2-wheel drive models, remove the cotter pin, steering shaft nut and thrust washer (A, **Figure 36**) at the base of the steering shaft. *Discard* the cotter pin as a new pin must be installed.
8. Disconnect both tie rods (**Figure 37**) from the steering shaft lower end as described in this chapter.
9. On 4-wheel drive and 1993 2-wheel drive models, remove the steering arm (B, **Figure 36**) from the base of the steering shaft.
10. Remove the steering shaft from the frame.

Inspection

1. Carefully inspect the entire steering shaft assembly, especially if the vehicle has been involved in a collision or spill. If the shaft is bent or twisted in any way, it must be replaced. If a damaged shaft is installed in the vehicle, it will cause rapid and excessive wear to the bearings as well as place undue

stress on other components in the frame and steering system.

2A. On 1988-1992 2-wheel drive models, inspect the tie rod attachment holes in the lower section of the steering shaft. Check for hole elongation, cracks or wear. Replace the steering shaft if necessary.

2B. On 4-wheel drive and 1993-on 2-wheel drive models, perform the following:

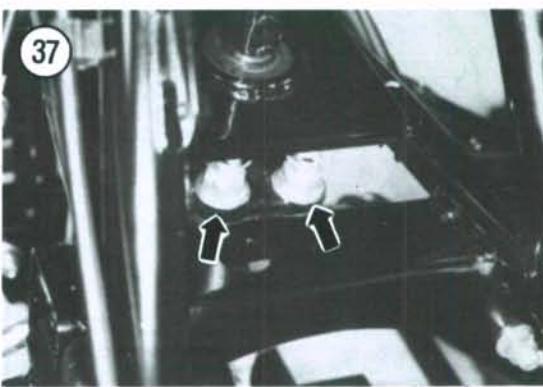
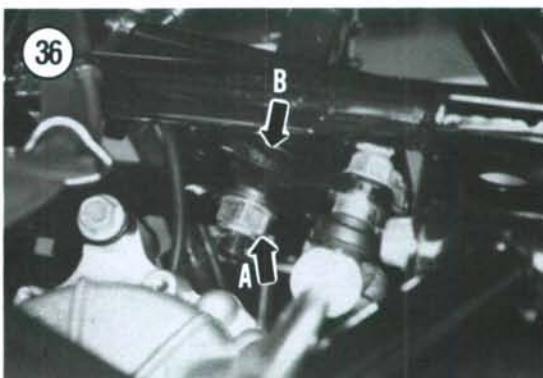
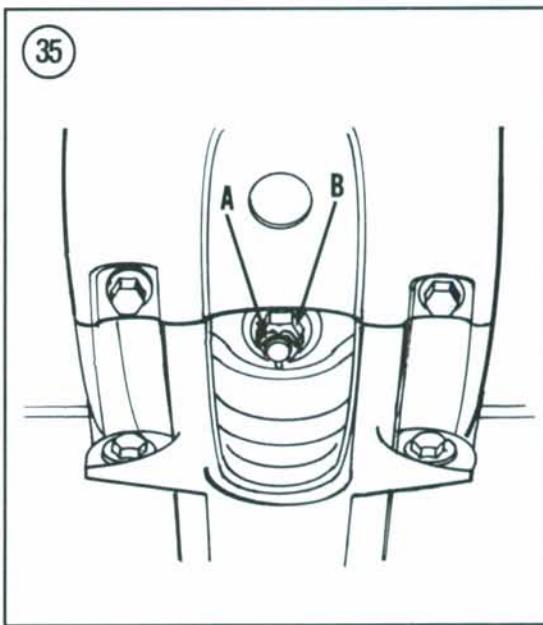
- a. Inspect the steering arm for wear or damage. Check the tie rod attachment holes for hole elongation, cracks or wear.
- b. Inspect the splines in the steering arm and on the steering shaft. Replace the steering arm and/or shaft if necessary.
3. Inspect the steering shaft upper bushing for wear or damage. Replace if necessary.
4. On 1988-1992 2-wheel drive models, remove the collar from the bearing receptacle in the frame.
5. Remove the bearing dust seal from the frame receptacle.
6. Turn the bearing inner race with your finger. It should turn freely, smoothly and quietly with no signs of damage. Replace if necessary as described in this chapter.
7. Inspect the dust seal and the grease seal. If either seal is damaged in any way, it should be replaced. A damaged seal will allow grit and moisture to enter the lower bearing.

Steering Shaft Bearing Replacement

The steering shaft bearing is pressed into place in the frame. Because it is easily bent, do not remove it unless it is worn and requires replacement.

1. If not already removed, remove the bearing dust seal from the frame receptacle.
2. Remove the circlip securing the bearing.
3. To remove the bearing, insert a long hardwood stick or soft punch into the lower portion of the frame receptacle and carefully tap the bearing out of the frame.
4. On non-sealed, bearings, pack the bearings with a good-quality bearing grease. Work the grease in between the balls thoroughly; turn the bearing by hand a couple of times to make sure the grease is distributed evenly inside the bearing.
5. On sealed bearings, install the bearing with the sealed side facing up.
6. Apply a light coat of grease to the frame receptacle and the outer surface of the bearing.

7. Tap the bearing squarely into place and tap on the outer race only. Use a socket that matches the outer race diameter. Do not tap on the inner race or the bearing might be damaged. Make sure the bearing is



completely seated so the circlip can be installed above it.

8. Install the circlip and make sure it is completely seated in the groove.

9. Install the bearing dust seal into the frame receptacle.

Installation

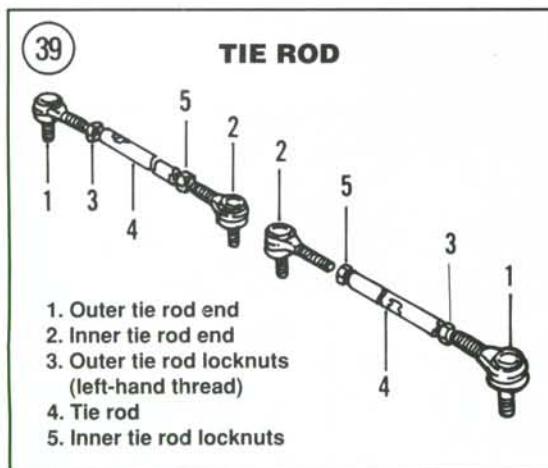
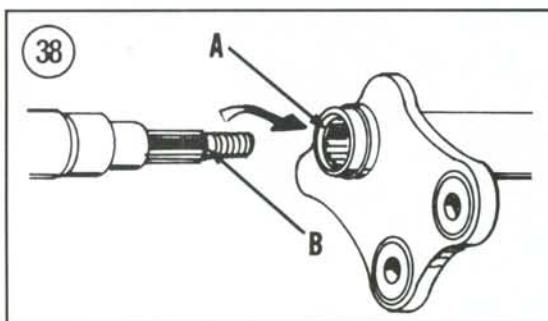
1. Apply a coat of grease to the steering shaft where it fits into the bearing.

2. Apply a coat of grease to the steering shaft bushing cavities. Install the bushing onto the shaft with the UP mark facing up toward the handlebar.

3. Install the steering shaft into the frame.

4. Install the steering shaft holder over the bushing and install the bolts. Tighten the bolts to the torque specification listed in **Table 1**.

5. On 4-wheel drive and 1993-on 2-wheel drive models, align the wide tooth on the steering arm splines with the wide cut-out on the steering shaft splines (**Figure 38**) and install the steering arm onto the base of the steering shaft.



6A. On 1988-1992 2-wheel drive models, install the steering shaft nut and tighten to the torque specification listed in **Table 1**.

6B. On 4-wheel drive and 1993-on 2-wheel drive models, install the steering shaft thrust washer. Apply grease to the nut flange and threads. Install the nut and tighten to the torque specification listed in **Table 1**.

7. Install a new cotter pin and bend the ends over completely. Never install a used cotter pin as it may break and fall out.

8. Connect both tie rods (**Figure 37**) onto the steering shaft lower end as described in this chapter.

9. Install the handlebar assembly onto the steering shaft.

CAUTION

See the CAUTION at the beginning of this chapter relating to the use of self-locking nuts.

10. Install new lower nuts securing the handlebar lower holders. Tighten the nuts to the torque specification listed in **Table 1**.

11. Install both front wheels as described in this chapter.

12. On 2-wheel drive models, install the inner fender panels.

13. Install the front fender and seat as described in Chapter Thirteen.

14. Check the toe-in of the front wheels as described in Chapter Three.

TIE ROD

Removal

Both tie rod assemblies are the same. Refer to **Figure 39** for this procedure.

NOTE

In this procedure where reference is made to "On 4-wheel drive and 1993-on 2-wheel drive models," the 4-wheel drive model is shown in the photographs. The only major difference is the presence of the front drive axle and other minor items that are unique to the 4-wheel drive system. Where differences occur that relate to the procedure, they are identified.

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